

CARR-616

Thomas Property
808 Martz Road

c. 1897

The Thomas property was originally part of a farm bought by Lewis Ohler in 1869. Ohler sold 1½ acres to the White Rock Building Association No. 1 in 1894 for \$100.00. They apparently built the house on the property and sold it to Reuben Thomas in 1898 for \$589.79. In that same year Thomas was assessed for a new house worth \$300.00. According to Mr. Herman F. Costley, this house remains in the same black family for whom it was built. The Thomas property has an important association with the life of African-Americans in Carroll County.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic The Thomas Property

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 808 Martz Road ___ not for publication

city, town Eldersburg ___X___ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Carroll

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>X</u> unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	___ no	___ military	<u>X</u> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James and Betty Jean Costley

street & number 6967 Eden Mill Road telephone no.:

city, town Woodbine state and zip code Maryland 21797

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse Annex liber 1305

street & number 55 North Court Street folio 233

city, town Westminster state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-616

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary: The Thomas property is located at the wye where Martz Road intersects Freedom Avenue in southeastern Carroll County. It is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay Pennsylvania Farmhouse plan structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, German siding now covered by aluminum siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a southeast-northwest ridge. The northeast elevation of the first story has two four-panel doors in the center bays, with a 2/2 double-hung sash in each end bay. There is a one-story porch across the front. The first story is divided into two rooms, with a pantry off the back, in the enclosed porch. There is a straight run of enclosed stairs along the southwest wall.

The Thomas property is located at the wye where Martz Road intersects Freedom Avenue in southeastern Carroll County. It is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Eldersburg and Flohrville. The house sits close to both roads on a level site. It is a two-story, four-bay by one-bay Pennsylvania Farmhouse plan structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, German siding now covered by aluminum siding, and a gable roof with asphalt shingles and a southeast-northwest ridge. The house faces northeast, toward the intersection of the two roads. The northeast elevation of the first story has two four-panel doors in the center bays, with a 2/2 double-hung sash in each end bay. The second story has a 2/2 sash in each end bay, with no openings in the center bays. There is a one-story porch across the front. It has a concrete deck, square, boxed posts, and a half-hip roof with asphalt shingles. There is a brick center chimney flanked on each side by a lightning rod.

The southeast elevation has a boarded-up opening in the foundation, a 6/1 sash on the first story, a 2/2 sash on the second, and a four-light sash in the gable end. The northwest elevation has a 6/1 sash in the first story, two 6/1 sash in the second story, and an opening for a four-light sash in the gable end. The southwest elevation has a porch on the first story with an asphalt shingle shed roof, a wood deck, and two posts. The west end of the porch is enclosed, and has a 6/1 sash. The west-center bay of the house has a four-panel door, the next bay has no openings, and the south bay has a four-panel door. The second story has a 2/2 sash in both end bays.

The first story is divided into two rooms, with a pantry off the back, in the enclosed porch. The northwest room flooring runs northeast-southwest. There is a plain chair rail with beaded-edge vertical-board wainscot underneath it. The southwest wall has a four-panel door into the pantry. The pantry has circular-sawn 2x4 studs, joists, and rafters. The walls are plaster on circular-sawn lath. The northeast wall of the pantry is exposed German siding. Scantling was nailed to it and a horizontal clamp in turn nailed to the scantling. The rafters rest on the clamp. The southeast wall of the northwest

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-616

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c.1897 **Builder/Architect** unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Thomas property was originally part of a farm bought by Lewis Ohler in 1869. Ohler sold 1½ acres to the White Rock Building Association No. 1 in 1894 for \$100.00. They apparently built the house on the property and sold it to Reuben Thomas in 1898 for \$589.79. In that same year Thomas was assessed for a new house worth \$300.00. According to Mr. Herman F. Costley, this house remains in the same black family for whom it was built. The Thomas property has an important association with the life of African-Americans in Carroll County.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: Industrial-Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Architecture

Resource Types: Dwelling, Rural vernacular

The Thomas property was originally part of a farm bought by Lewis Ohler in 1869. Ohler sold 1½ acres to the White Rock Building Association No. 1 in 1894 for \$100.00. They apparently built the house on the property and sold it to Reuben Thomas in 1898 for \$589.79. In that same year Thomas was assessed for a new house worth \$300.00. According to Mr. Herman F. Costley, brother of the late owner, and neighbor of the Thomas property, this house remains in the same black family for whom it was built. Reuben Thomas sold it to Alpheus Thomas who sold it to Levi Nugent. Nugent's wife, Catherine, was apparently a Thomas by birth. Levi died less than a year after buying the Thomas property, and perhaps intended it as a place for his widow to live. He left it to her in his will. Catherine raised not only her children, but her grandchildren, including Mr. Costley after the death of his father, in this house.

The house formerly had a long chicken house and a smokehouse. There were apple and pear trees; only one of the latter survives. The Thomas property has an important association with the life of African-Americans in Carroll County and gives us a glimpse into that rarely documented life. The White Rock Building Association may

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-616

Carroll County Land Records
Tax Assessments ; 1876-96; 1896-1910
interview with Mr. Herman F. Costley

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.25 a.Quadrangle name FinksburgQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Plannerorganization Carroll County Planning Departmentdate July 27, 1993street & number 225 North Center Streettelephone (410) 857-2145city or town Westminsterstate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

Survey No. CARR-616

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

room has a chimney for a stove with a door to either side. The southern door is of beaded-edge vertical boards. The doors and windows have plain wood surrounds.

The southeast room flooring runs southeast-northwest. This room has the same wainscot and surrounds, and the chimney extends into the room for a stove. The southwest wall has a four-panel door into a vestibule. Inside this vestibule there is a door to the outside on the southwest, and a straight run of enclosed stairs to the northwest, along the southwest wall. At the top of the stairs is a landing, with a four-panel door to the northwest, into a chamber in the west corner. Another four-panel door on the northeast side of the landing leads into a chamber in the east. This room had a stove on the northwest wall, and has a wood mantle on the chimney. North of the chimney is a four-panel door into a chamber in the north corner. The southwest wall has a four-panel door to the south, into a closet over the vestibule below.

There is a hatch to the attic in the east chamber. There are sawn 2x4 rafters with no ridge. On the northeast side the roof has board sheathing, while the southwest side has lath and wood shingles.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM**

Survey No. CARR-616

Significance (continued)

Section 8 Page 2

have been affiliated with nearby White Rock Church, and may also have been intended to assist blacks in building homes. The house they built for Reuben Thomas was modest, but not small, and was very traditional for Carroll County. These traditional forms were beginning to die out, but would still be employed on occasion for another ten or fifteen years.

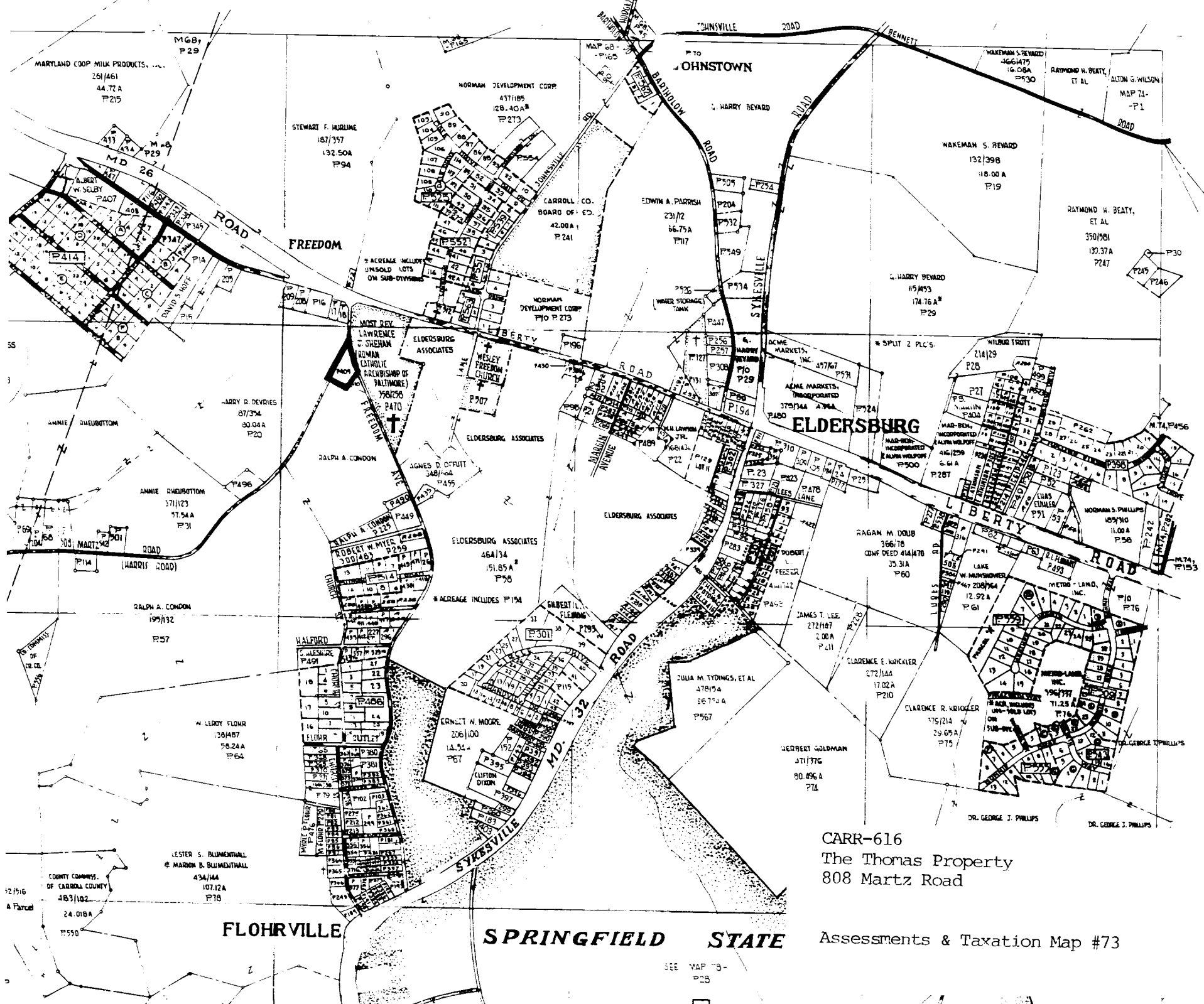
KS/lh:7-19-93:CARR-616

CA -616
The Thomas Property
Martz Road at Freedom Avenue

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANS- ACTION	COMMENTS
James Costley	?	Costley, James & Betty Jean	?	10-28-1991	LWS 1305	233	Deed fee simple	1.5 a.
Jame Costley, personal rep. of Edna Ryan	?	James Costley	?	3-26-1977	CCC 658	72	Deed fee simple	1.5 a.
Catherine Nugent	Baltimore County	Edna Ryan & Elise Granger	?	5-24-1954	EAS 236	49	Deed fee simple	\$5, 1.5 a.
Robert and Mollie E. Keene	Philadelphia, PA	Catherine Nugent	Carroll	12-10-1928	EMM 152	22	Deed fee simple	½ interest, \$297.50
Levi Nugent		Catherine Nugent		2-19-1928	<u>wills</u> WFB 13	418	Bequest	½ interest will #4245
Levi Nugent		Mollie E. and Robert Keene		2-19-1928	<u>wills</u> WFB 13	418	Bequest	½ interest
Alpheus Thomas & wife, Bessie L.	New Jersey Ohio	Levi Nugent	Carroll	7-?-1927	EMM 149	443	Deed fee simple	1.5 a., \$10
Reuben Thomas & wife, Florence B.	Baltimore City	Alpheus & Bessie L. Thomas	?	8-16-1921	EMM 140	493	Deed fee simple	\$5, 1.5 a. known as The Thomas Property
White Rock Building Association No. 1	Carroll MD Corp.	Reuben Thomas	Carroll	2-12-1898	JHB 86	243	Deed fee simple	\$589.79, 1.5 a.
Lewis Ohler	Carroll	White Rock Building Association No. 1	Carroll	10-4-1894	BFC 79	515	Deed fee simple	\$100, 1.5 a.
Christian and Maria Devries		Lewis Ohler		1-29-1869	JBB 37	216		
Nathan Browne		Lewis Ohler		4-17-1869	JBB 37	217		

KS/Lh: 7-19-93:616title



576

573

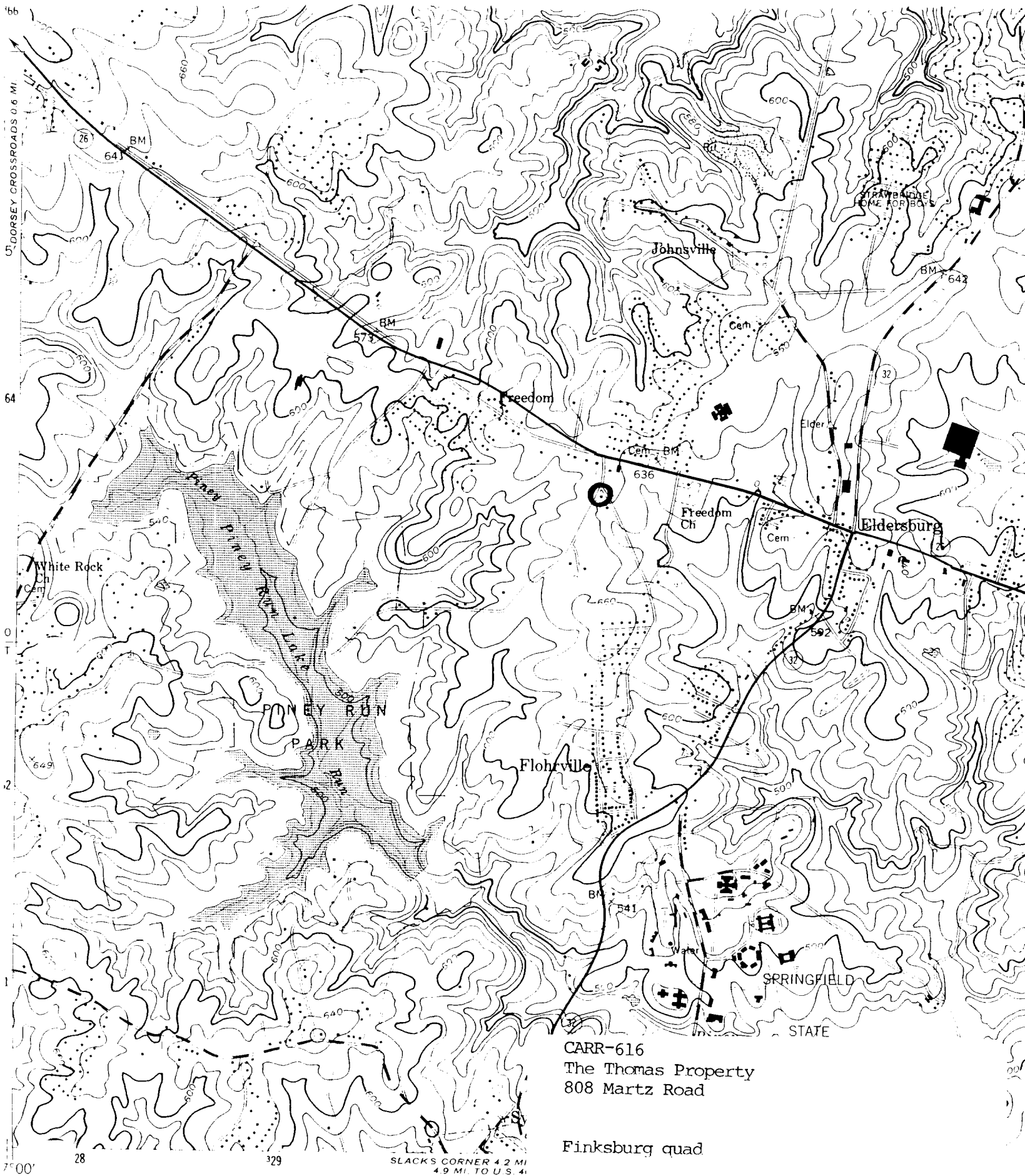
570

74

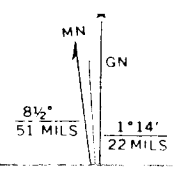
CARR-616
The Thomas Property
808 Martz Road

Assessments & Taxation Map #73

SEE MAP 73-
P25



Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and USSCS
 Topography from aerial photographs by stereophotogrammetric
 methods. Aerial photographs taken 1943. Field check 1944
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1953





The Thomas Property
Martz Road at Freedom Avenue
Carroll County, Maryland
Photo: Kenneth M. Short
Date: May 1993
Neg. Loc. Maryland Historical Trust
northeast elevation
11

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Double House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Junction of Freedom Ave. and Martz (Harris) Road

CITY, TOWN

Freedom - Eldersburg

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES RESTRICTED
☐ YES UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CASR-66

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED |

CHECK ONE

- ☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small frame duplex is two stories high, four bays wide, and faces east. The building is clad in novelty siding, with asphalt shingles covering the roof. Entrances appear in both central bays, with a 2/2 sash window in each of the outlying bays. Similar windows pierce the outer bays of the second story. A half-hipped porch with turned posts spans the facade. A central chimney exits from the ridge of the gable roof.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant as an example of the duplex house form, which is uncommon in its rural location.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Peter E. Kurtze, MHT/SHA Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

February 1980

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle - Shaw House

TELEPHONE

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



CARR-616
DOUBLE HOUSE
EAST FACADE
J. HNEDEK 2/78